



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

Auditor-Controller
Chief Administrative Officer
Director of Mental Health

At its meeting held November 15, 2005, the Board took the following action:

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The following item was called up for consideration:

The Director of Mental Health's recommendation to approve and authorize the Director to begin the Request for Statement of Qualifications (RFSQ) process for the solicitation of Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) services in accordance with the County Mental Health System's Community Services and Supports (CSS) Plan, approved by the Board and submitted to the State Department of Mental Health (SDMH), in order to transform and expand the delivery of mental health services provided by State and County agencies from a system that focuses primarily on clinical services into one in which the Department can partner with clients, their families, and their communities to provide, under client and family direction, whatever it takes to enable people to attain their goals toward recovery; authorize the Director to amend the RFSQ as funding for other SDMH approved MHSA plans become available and/or as services are developed under the CSS Plan.

The following statement was entered into the record for Supervisors Molina and Yaroslavsky:

"On October 11, 2005, the Board of Supervisors approved submission of the Department of Mental Health's proposed Community Services and Support (CSS) Plan to the State Department of Mental Health. Submission and approval of this plan (and of four other plans to follow) is required in order to access Mental Health Services Act (Prop. 63) funds. State approval is expected at the beginning of 2006, so the Department has proceeded to develop a three-year CSS implementation plan.

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“Under the three-year CSS Plan, Los Angeles County is expected to receive approximately \$90 million, \$91 million, and \$96 million in one-time and ongoing funds for Fiscal Years 2005-2006, 2006-2007, and 2007-2008, respectfully. Through an extensive community stakeholders’ process, these funds are targeted to four specific populations: children ages 0-5, transitional age youths (TAY), adults, and older adults. Within each target population, the stakeholders have committed Prop. 63 funds in various full service partnerships and system development categories.

“Prop. 63 funds will provide an extraordinary opportunity for the County to expand mental health services for children and adults who are suffering from mental health problems and/or serious emotional disturbances. However, fiscal and program accountability must be a top priority if we are to succeed in transforming the way we provide mental health services in Los Angeles County. The use of Prop. 63 dollars, like all other public dollars, must be transparent to the residents of the County and the elected officials who represent them.

“We, therefore, recommend that the Board instruct the Director of Mental Health, Chief Administrative Officer, and Auditor-Controller to report to the Board in two weeks on implementing a fiscal monitoring system through eCAPS that will track the CSS Plan allocations for, and expenditures from, each of the four target populations, and service types defined within each target population.

“We further recommend that the Board instruct the Director of Mental Health, Chief Administrative Officer, and Auditor-Controller to report to the Board in two weeks on implementing a fiscal monitoring system through eCAPS that will track the CSS Plan allocations for, and expenditures from, the one-time funds of \$45 million for Fiscal Year 2005-2006.”

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Supervisor Burke made the following statement:

“Proposition 63, the Mental Health Services Act, has enabled us to begin addressing the historically under funded mental health needs of Los Angeles County. In order to promptly expedite programs and services outlined in the community-driven and Board-approved Mental Health Services Plan, the Department of Mental Health, in respect to the Full Service Partnership Program, has proposed establishing a pre-qualified list of service providers with demonstrated staff expertise, service capacity, and financial wherewithal who can apply to and immediately begin service in response to future Request for Service (RFS) postings. This approach makes sense, however there are two outstanding issues: 1) there exists many community based providers who have both contributed to planning, and have a desire to provide these services but do not currently meet the criteria outlined in the Request for Service Qualifications (RFSQ); and 2) the long term need for service will eventually exceed even this great resource and thus further exacerbating the exclusion of the small to mid size organizations.

“The Department of Mental Health must develop a mechanism to foster partnership between the larger, pre-qualified providers with other viable community-based organizations that need further development in capacity and/or financial viability. A way to assure this collaboration is to include provisions in future RFS and Scope of Work, to encourage or require large providers to partner or mentor with potential future service providers. There may also be other means to reach this goal, and DMH should explore those options and inform the Board of ways to accomplish this goal.

“I, therefore, recommend that the Director of Mental Health report back within 30 days, or one week prior to the release of the first Request for Services for Full Service Partnership, on a plan:

1. To incorporate provisions into future Request for Services and Statement of Work to encourage and ensure partnerships; and
2. To provide forward thinking strategies to increase and thus make more inclusive the pool of competent and eligible service providers who can respond to future mental health endeavors at all levels of service.”

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Marvin Southard, Director of Mental Health, responded to questions posed by the Board.

Warren Williams addressed the Board.

After discussion, on motion of Supervisor Molina, and by common consent, there being no objection, the Director of Mental Health's attached recommendation was adopted as amended to:

1. Instruct the Director of Mental Health, Chief Administrative Officer, and Auditor-Controller to report back in two weeks on implementing a fiscal monitoring system through eCAPS that will track the CSS Plan allocations for, and expenditures from:
 - Each of the four target populations, and service types defined within each target population; and
 - The one-time funds of \$45 million for FY 2005-2006; and
2. Instruct the Director of Mental Health to report back within 30 days or one week prior to the release of the first Request for Services for Full Service Partnership, on a plan:
 - To incorporate provisions into future Request for Services and Statement of Work to encourage and ensure partnerships; and
 - To provide forward thinking strategies to increase and thus make more inclusive the pool of competent and eligible service providers who can respond to future mental health endeavors at all levels of service.

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Attachment

Copies distributed:
Each Supervisor
County Counsel